REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Yoon for indicating allowability of Claims 4-9 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The present invention as set forth in **amended Claim 1** relates to a method for producing a polyvinyl ester resin emulsion, comprising:

polymerizing a vinyl ester monomer in a mode of emulsion polymerization in the presence of a polyvinyl alcohol serving as protective colloid and **in the presence of a water-insoluble, hydroxyl group-containing compound** having a saturation solubility of at most 8 g in 100cc of water at 60°C, and

wherein **the water-insoluble compound is selected from the group consisting of a water-insoluble ester alcohol compound** comprising a reaction product of a polyalcohol having from 2 to 50 carbon atoms with an aliphatic carboxylic acid having 1 to 30 carbon atoms; **ethylene glycol monophenyl ether; diethylene glycol monophenyl ether; polyethylene glycol monophenyl ether; and propylene glycol monophenyl ether**.

In contrast, Ehmann et al (US 4,544,689) fail to disclose or suggest emulsion polymerization in the presence of a water-insoluble compound selected from the group consisting of a water-insoluble ester alcohol compound comprising a reaction product of a polyalcohol having from 2 to 50 carbon atoms with an aliphatic carboxylic acid having 1 to 30 carbon atoms; ethylene glycol monophenyl ether; diethylene glycol monophenyl ether; polyethylene glycol monophenyl ether; and propylene glycol monophenyl ether as claimed in Claim 1.

In fact, all that the reference discloses is that an aqueous polyvinyl ester dispersion is manufactured by emulsion polymerization of a vinyl ester, optionally together with comonomers, and by the **subsequent distribution of the starch** in the dispersion obtained by the emulsion polymerization (Ehmann et al, abstract).

However, in the present invention, the emulsion polymerization proceeds **in the presence** of water-insoluble compounds. **In addition, the claimed water-insoluble compounds are different from starch.**

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1-3 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Ehmann et al (US 4,544,689) is believed to be unsustainable as the present invention is neither anticipated nor obvious and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge that the references cited in the **Information Disclosure Statement, filed herewith** have been considered.

In regard to the references cited in the IDS attached herewith, Applicants note that none of the cited reference disclose or suggest the claimed method and the superior results of the emulsions obtained by the method according to the present invention are shown for example in Table 1 at pages 25 and 26 and in Table 2 at page 34 of the specification. Further, EP279384 uses surfactants as described at page 4, lines 36-54 and Table 5. However, surfactants must be water-soluble in order to lower the surface tension of water. Thus, the described surfactants are water-soluble. On the other hand, the compounds used in the present invention are water-insoluble and satisfy the saturation solubility of at most 8 g in 100cc at 60°C. As a result, the water-insoluble compounds of the present invention act as additives providing high viscosity, good water-resistant adhesiveness and heat-resistant adhesiveness. This is not disclosed or suggest by any of the references cited in the IDs filed herewith.

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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